

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/801,958

Examiner

B. Clayton McCraw

Applicant(s)

BARMANN ET AL.

Art Unit

3744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/17/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-7, 9-11, 13-26, 28 and 29.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 3-7, 9-11, 13-26, 28 and 29 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: As per claim 7, the prior art fails to teach a refrigerator comprising a thermally insulating housing, a hollow body disposed in an internal area bounding a flow channel for guiding cooling air, cooled item supports disposed in the internal area, with the internal area having a first wall, the hollow body being disposed in contact with the first wall, the internal area having a second wall adjacent to the first wall, and at least one projection disposed on the second wall and holding the hollow body in the internal area. As per claim 28, the prior art fails to teach a refrigerator comprising a refrigerator comprising a thermally insulating housing defining an internal area cooled by circulation of cooling air, a hollow body disposed in the internal area and bounding a flow channel for guiding the cooling air, cooled item supports disposed in the internal area and supported on the hollow body, the hollow body having an elongated cavity with boundary walls defining at least one vertical rail for holding the cooled item supports and the rail having at least one toothed latching strip and opposing bearing strip oriented opposite the latching strip and each of the cooled item supports having a lever section with an end selectively supported on the latching strip and an end selectively supported on the bearing strip. As per claim 29, the prior art fails to teach a refrigerator comprising a refrigerator comprising a thermally insulating housing defining an internal area cooled by circulation of cooling air, a hollow body disposed in the internal area and bounding a flow channel for guiding the cooling air, cooled item supports disposed in the internal area and

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supported on the hollow body, at least one vertical rail disposed on the hollow body for holding the cooled item supports, the rail having at least one toothed latching strip and an opposing bearing strip oriented opposite the latching strip and a respective lever section on each one of the cooled item supports, each lever section having an end selectively supported on the latching strip and an end selectively supported on the bearing strip.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to B. Clayton McCraw whose telephone number is (571) 272-3665. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM-5:00PM.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl Tyler can be reached on (571) 272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



BCM
5/1/2006



CHERYL TYLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER